PERSONA Q SHADOW OF THE LABYRINTH

side: P3

THE WINNER OF *MAGAZINE'S* NEW MANGA ARTIST AWARD DRAWS THE BESTSELLING GAME IN MANGA FORM!!

WANDERED INTO A MYSTERIOUS WORLD! WHAT THRILLS AWAIT?!

THE WORLD OF PERSONA!!

THE DARK HOUR

The hidden hour that takes place in the rift between one day and the next. Most people cannot perceive its existence, but our heroes can move freely within the dark hour.

TARTARUS

A mysterious tower that appears during the Dark Hour. It towers high into the sky and countless creatures called Shadows lurk inside.

PERSONA

A special ability used by our heroes, and the only power that can resist the Shadows. It's greatly affected by strength of heart. It manifests when a Persona-user shoots him or herself in the head with a gun called an Evoker.

SPECIALIZED EXTRACURRICULAR EXECUTION SQUAD

One of the clubs at our heroes' high school, Gekkoukan High School. A group "chosen to defeat the shadows," whose goal is to execute Shadows and explore Tartarus.

WHAT IS *PERSONA Q :SHADOW OF THE LABYRINTH?*

The newest installment of Atlus's *Persona* series, available for the 3DS. The characters of *Persona 3* and *Persona 4* appear together in one game and explore a world of wonders. This is the first Nintendo 3DS game in the Persona series.

Publisher: Atlus Genre: RPG Release date: June 5, 2014
Rating: M Price: $49.99 plus tax Platform: Nintendo 3DS

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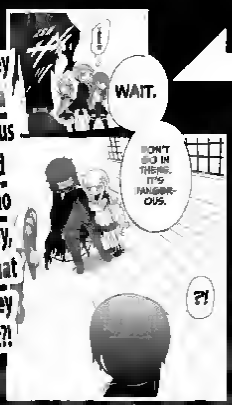
SUMMARY OF CHAPTER 1

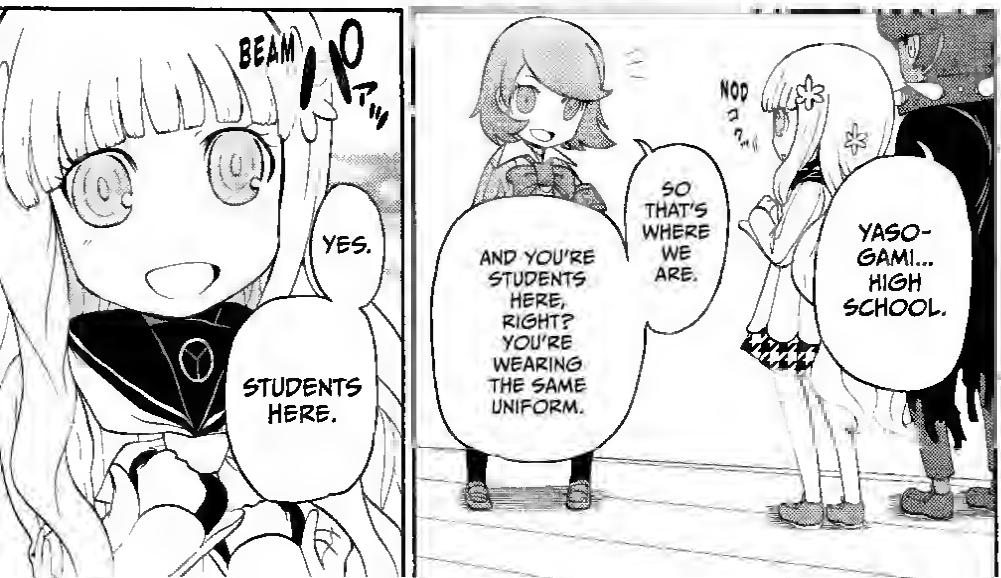
On a stormy night, our heroes head for Tartarus as usual, but they're suddenly dropped down an elevator shaft!?

The next thing they know, they've wandered into the Culture Festival at the unfamiliar Yasogami High School! There are signs of Shadow activity in a certain class display that calls itself "Youth Wonderland"...



PERSONA Q
SHADOW OF THE LABYRINTH
SIDE: P3
You in Wonderlan
WAIT.
Let's Alice!
A MYSTERIOUS BOY AND GIRL APPEAR BEFORE THE SPECIAL EXTRACURRICULAR EXECUTION SQUAD. WHAT IS THIS "DANGER" OF WHICH THEY SPEAK?!
IT'S DANGEROUS IN THERE.
CREATED BY: ATLUS
MANGA BY: SOU TOBITA
WHO ARE YOU...?
S.E.
Chapter 2

THIS IS REI.
I AM ZEN.
THAT IS WHAT WE CALL EACH OTHER.
WHO ARE YOU? WHERE DID YOU COME FROM?



★ This story is fiction. Any resemblance to actual persons, organizations or events is strictly coincidence.

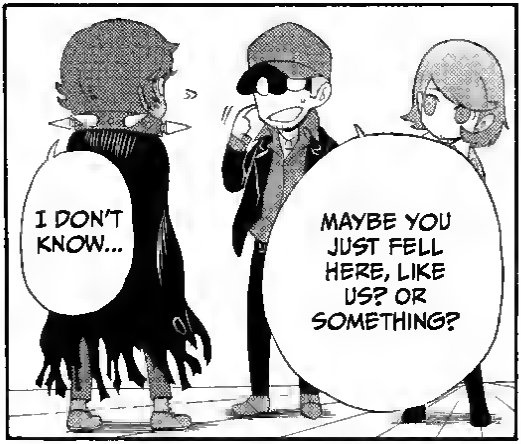
SHOCK
TREMBLE
TREMBLE
WHAT IS ...A SHADOW?
...
!
WINCE
WHOOOOSH
THEY HAVEN'T ATTACKED YOU?
THERE ARE SHADOWS HERE, RIGHT?
I MEAN, WHAT'S GOING ON?
WHERE ARE WE?
EEEEEEEK!
KA-CLACK
GLARE
ER, UM...DO YOU KNOW WHERE WE CAN FIND AN EXIT? WE'D LIKE TO LEAVE.
WAIT—I'M SORRY! PUT IT AWAY...!
WHOA, WATCH WHERE YOU POINT THAT THING!
IF YOU'RE GOING TO MAKE REI CRY, THEN YOU ARE MY ENEMY.
WHETHER WE CAN OR NOT, WE MUST.
FROM HERE? YOU CAN GO HOME?
PEEK...
YES. WE WANT TO GO HOME.
...LEAVE?
...

ME, TOO.
I WANT TO GO HOME.
REI?
...
I WANT...
...TO GO HOME, TOO!
GO HOME ...?
BUT WHERE IS HOME?

HMMM... WHERE IS HOME?
YOU DON'T KNOW WHERE YOUR HOME IS?
ALL I KNOW IS THAT I WAS HERE ONE DAY. I CAN'T REMEMBER ANYTHING BEFORE THAT.
WHAT ?
OUR MEMO-RIES
WERE TAKEN.
TAKEN ...?
YOU MEAN... SOMEONE GRABBED YOUR MEMORIES AND RAN OFF WITH 'EM?
WHO WAS IT?

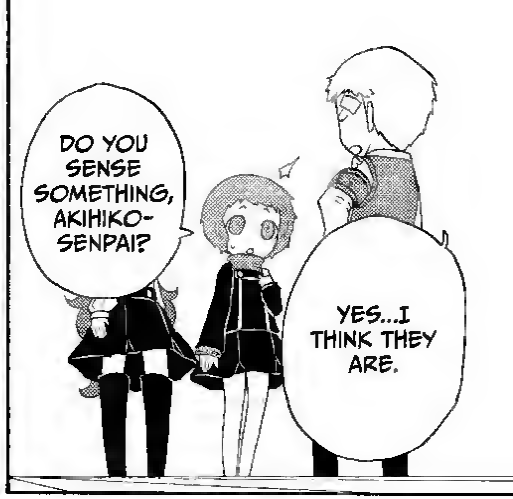
I DON'T KNOW.
BUT YOU REMEMBER THAT THEY WERE TAKEN?
BUT I REMEMBER THAT THEY WERE TAKEN.
THEN HOW DID YOU GET HERE...ER, I GUESS YOU WOULDN'T REMEMBER THAT.
I WOULDN'T REMEMBER THAT.

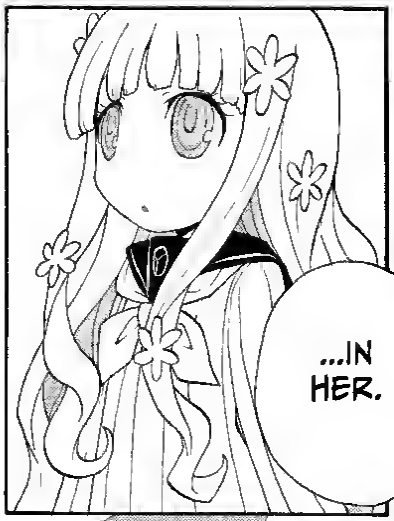
SHUDDER
DON'T SAY THAT! YOU'RE SCARING ME!
WHAT IF WE LOSE OUR MEMORIES, TOO?


I DON'T KNOW...
MAYBE YOU JUST FELL HERE, LIKE US? OR SOMETHING?

MAYBE WHOEVER DID IT IS SOMEWHERE IN THIS SCHOOL...
MAYBE WHOEVER IT WAS THAT TOOK ZEN-KUN AND REI-CHAN'S MEMORIES IS THE SAME ONE WHO LOCKED THEM UP IN HERE?

ALL WE'D HAVE TO DO TO GET OUT IS BEAT 'EM UP
...
WHAT ...?
NO.
I JUST THINK IT'D BE MORE FUN THAT WAY.


DO YOU SENSE SOMETHING, AKIHIKO-SENPAI?
YES...I THINK THEY ARE.


...IN HER.

LEADER...
I...SENSE... SOMETHING.

I SENSE SOMETHING IN REI-SAN.
WHAT... IS THIS FEELING? I WANT TO KNOW MORE ABOUT HER...
BUT WHY...?
...

ZEN, LET'S GET OUT WITH THEM.
I WANT TO GO HOME, TOO.
...
...ALL RIGHT.
IF THAT'S WHAT YOU WANT, REI.
You in Wonderland
Let's Alice!
I FELT THAT WE SHOULD ENTER THE LABYRINTH AS WELL.
...AFTER I HEARD THE BELL.
THE BELL ...?

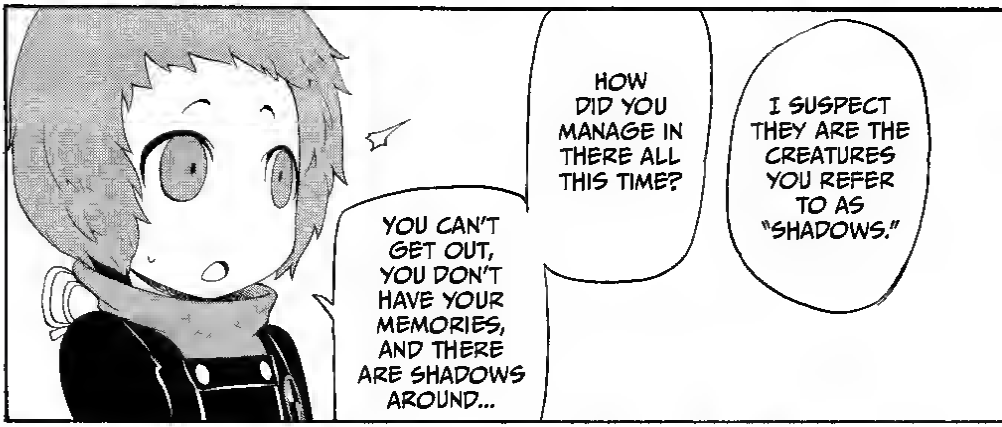
WE WON'T GET IN YOUR WAY.
I WILL PROTECT REI. I CAN FIGHT THE MONSTERS IN THE LABYRINTH.
YOU'RE A PERSONA-USER, TOO?
PERSONA? I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU MEAN.

PLAY THE ORIGINAL STORY IN THE NINTENDO 3DS GAME, *PERSONA Q: SHADOW OF THE LABYRINTH*, ON SALE NOW!

IT'S NOT EVERY DAY YOU SAY SOMETHING THAT SMART, LEADER.
BOW
YOU HAVE MY THANKS.
...
YOU HAVE MY THANKS! I'M SO HAPPY TO JOIN YOU!
TEE HEE HEE... I FEEL SO MUCH BETTER, NOW I'M HUNGRY.
KUMMAGE
KUMMAGE
?
TADAH!
HUH?! WHERE DID YOU GET THAT?!
AND WHY A DONUT ?!
I KNOW THE TRUTH. DONUTS ARE CREATED FROM LOVE.
MUNCH
MUNCH
LOVE MEETS DONUTS.
THEN THEY ARE NOT MADE FROM FLOUR.
I WILL UPDATE MY DATA IMMEDIATELY.
NO, THAT'S OKAY...

You in Wonderlan
THE INSIDE IS A COMPLEX STRUCTURE, WITH MANY MONSTERS ROAMING ABOUT.

BUT HEY... ZEN-KUN, WAS IT?
YOU SAID IT WAS A LABYRINTH? SO IT'S A MAZE?


YOU CAN'T GET OUT, YOU DON'T HAVE YOUR MEMORIES, AND THERE ARE SHADOWS AROUND...
HOW DID YOU MANAGE IN THERE ALL THIS TIME?
I SUSPECT THEY ARE THE CREATURES YOU REFER TO AS "SHADOWS."

...IS THAT ALL?
I ATE DONUTS, AND I ATE TAKOYAKI, AND I ATE ICE CREAM.

UM...CAN YOU BE MORE SPECIFIC?
I WAS WITH ZEN.

DUN
どーん
THE CORNDOGS WERE EXTREMELY DELICIOUS, TOO!
WHOA... OKAY, I GOT IT...
ENTRANCE THIS W
I SEE WE HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO SEARCH THIS DISPLAY.
FIRST, LET'S ASSIGN A VANGUARD.
I'LL GO.
YOU COME, TOO, SHINJI.
WHO MADE YOU MY BOSS?
NO... THAT'S A GOOD IDEA. WE THIRD-YEARS WILL GO.
I WANNA GO, TOO!
WE CANNOT EXPOSE OUR UNDERCLASSMEN TO UNKNOWN DANGERS.
OH... COME TO THINK OF IT, WHAT YEAR ARE YOU GUYS IN?
WHAT YEAR? ...I DON'T KNOW.
THEN LET'S JUST SAY YOU'RE FIRST-YEARS.
AND I KNOW WE SAID NO UNDERCLASSMEN, BUT WE'RE GOING TO NEED YOU IN THE VANGUARD, AS WELL.
YOU SAID YOU CAN FIGHT THE MONSTERS, AND I WOULD LIKE TO SEE THAT FOR MYSELF.
YES, I UNDER-STAND.
キュッ
TUG

REI...
DO YOU WANT TO WAIT HERE WITH US, REI-CHAN?
...REI ?
YOU WANT TO GET OUT OF HERE, DON'T YOU?
DON'T WORRY. I WILL PROTECT YOU.

HEE HEE! YOU TWO ARE SO CLOSE.
WE PROMISED WE'D STAY TOGETHER.
...OKAY.
I'LL BACK YOU UP FROM HERE!
I'M EXCITED.
...LET'S GO.
RATTLE
RATTLE
BE CAREFUL, EVERY-ONE!

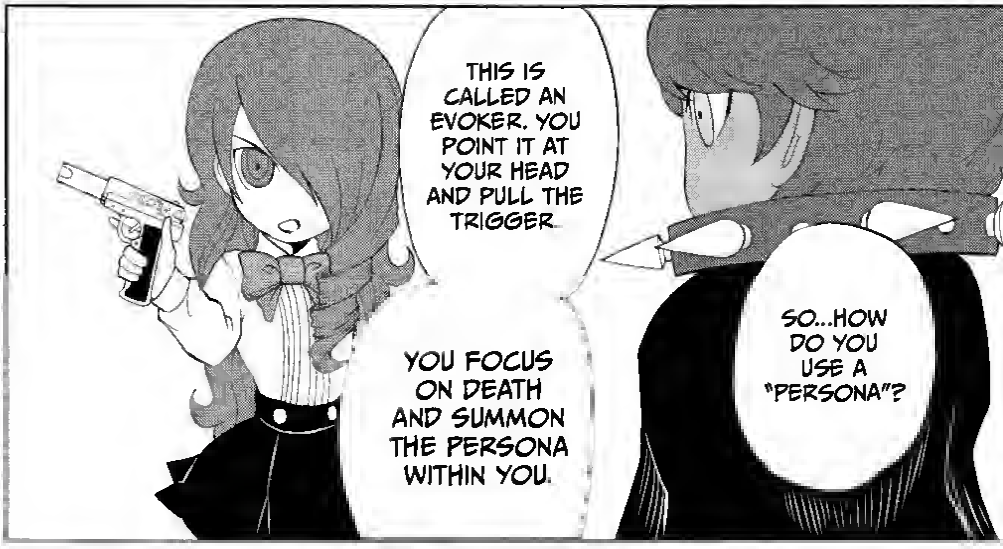
WHOOOSH

REI... ARE YOU SCARED?
A FAIRY-TALE WORLD, HUH? IT DEFINITELY LOOKS LIKE THERE'S SOMETHING GOING ON.
THIS IS...
...
...I SEE.
...I'M ALL RIGHT.

BE CAREFUL! THERE'S A SHADOW NEARBY!
AH!
WHAT?
OH! I'M SORRY IF I STARTLED YOU.
MY PERSONA IS A SUPPORT TYPE. IT CAN SCAN THE AREA AND DETECT SHADOWS.
I MAY NOT BE IN THERE WITH YOU, BUT I CAN STILL NAVIGATE FOR YOU.

WOW!
NORMALLY, EACH PERSON CAN ONLY USE ONE PERSONA, BUT OUR LEADER HERE CAN USE A BUNCH.

WE SURE CAN! OUR PERSONAS ARE BATTLE TYPES. THEY FIGHT SHADOWS.
PERSONAS ARE REALLY AMAZING!
CAN YOU ALL USE THEM?


THIS IS CALLED AN EVOKER. YOU POINT IT AT YOUR HEAD AND PULL THE TRIGGER.
YOU FOCUS ON DEATH AND SUMMON THE PERSONA WITHIN YOU.
SO...HOW DO YOU USE A "PERSONA"?

WELL, THEY SAY A PICTURE IS WORTH A THOUSAND WORDS!
IT'S JUST PRETEND. THERE AREN'T ANY BULLETS.
YOU SHOOT YOURSELF?

I'LL SHOW YOU GUYS EXACTLY WHAT A PERSONA IS!
NOW, IORI...
BE CAREFUL,I IORI-KUN! THERE'S A SHADOW CLOSE BY...
...HEY...
HUH ?

BLAM
BLAM
BLAM
BLAM
BLAM
OWAAAH!
HONESTLY. THAT'S WHAT YOU GET FOR GETTING COCKY.
Z-ZEN ...!
STAY BACK, REI!

WOOOHH~
THERE ARE THREE ENEMIES! IT SEEMS LIKE THEY'RE WEAK AGAINST FIRE!
ZEN-KUN! LEAVE IT TO OUR LEADER! HE CAN USE FIRE!
UNDER-STOOD.
I DON'T RECOGNIZE THOSE SHADOWS...
CHAK

ORPHEUS.

WHOOSH
WHAM
GH-
GH

!?

THE OTHER TWO SHADOWS ARE HEADING RIGHT FOR YOU!
B-BWOH

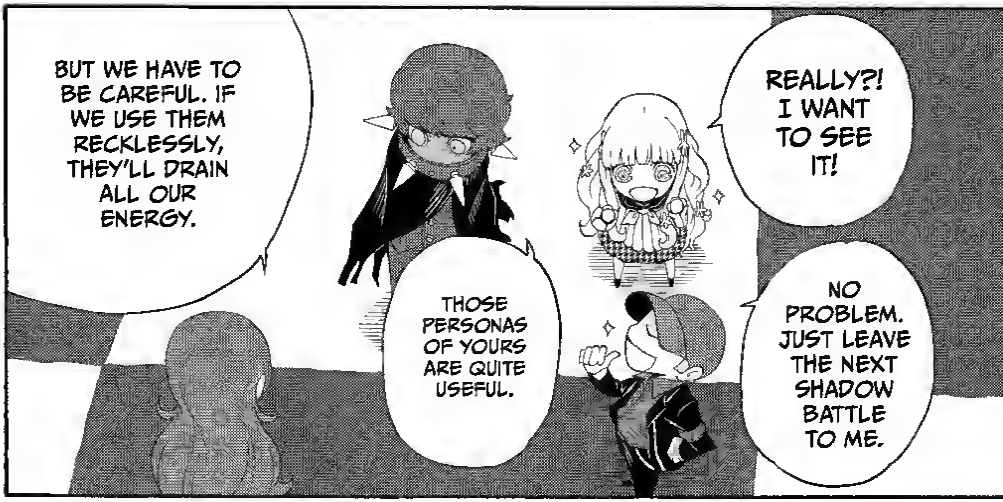
THE SHADOWS TOOK A LOT OF DAMAGE! ONE MORE ATTACK SHOULD GET THEM!
...!
SHINJI!
THE ONE OF THE RIGHT IS ALL YOURS!
AGAIN, WHO PUT YOU IN CHARGE?!

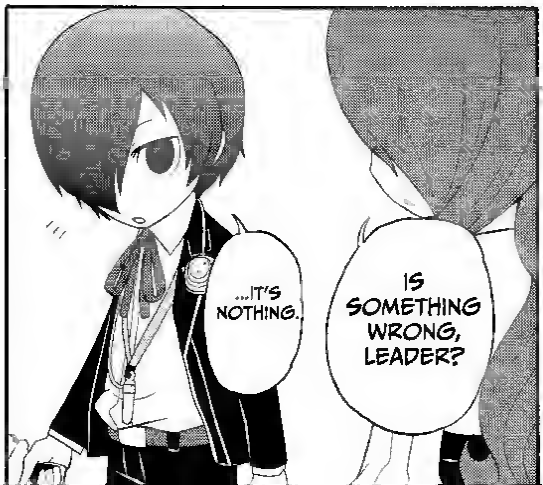
ZWAAH
IT'S ALL YOU, CASTOR!
GO, POLYDEUCES!

KAPOW

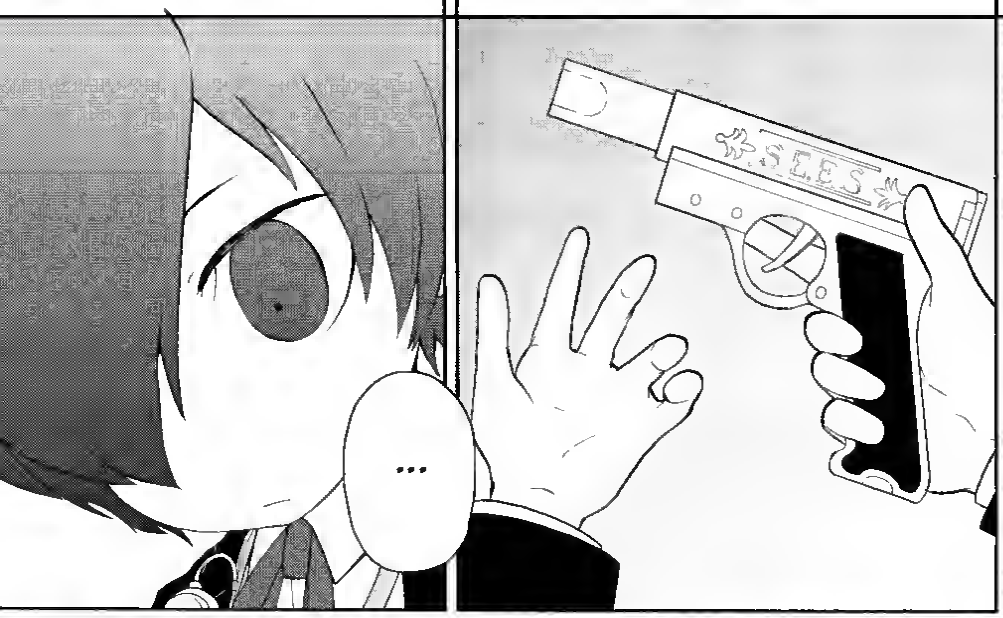
WOW! PERSONAS ARE SO STRONG!
I KNOW, RIGHT?! AND MY PERSONA IS SUPER AWESOME!

BASH
THOSE BIG MOUTHS WERE ALL BARK AND NO BITE!
ALL SHADOWS ELIMINATED!


BUT WE HAVE TO BE CAREFUL. IF WE USE THEM RECKLESSLY, THEY'LL DRAIN ALL OUR ENERGY.
THOSE PERSONAS OF YOURS ARE QUITE USEFUL.
REALLY?! I WANT TO SEE IT!
NO PROBLEM. JUST LEAVE THE NEXT SHADOW BATTLE TO ME.


...IT'S NOTHING.
IS SOMETHING WRONG, LEADER?

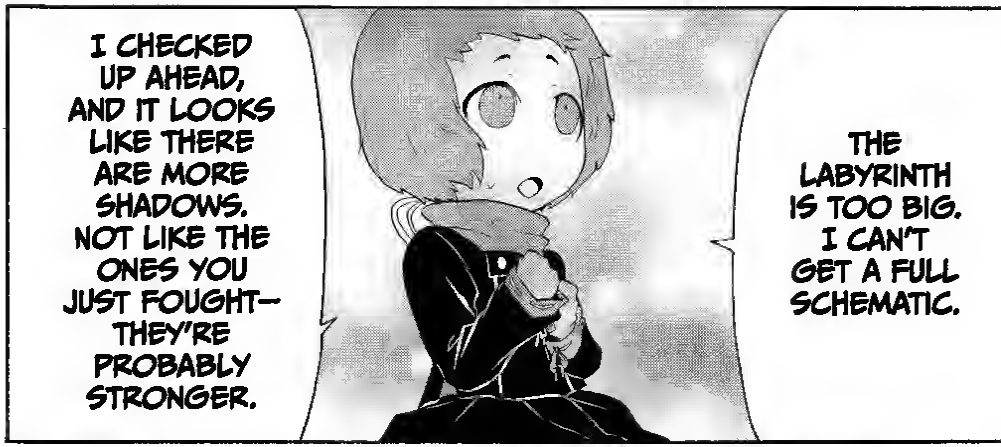
...


...
S.E.E.S.

POING
HEY, HEY!
COULD ZEN AND I USE PERSONAS, TOO?!
...I DON'T KNOW.
THOSE TWO VELVET ROOM RESIDENTS MIGHT KNOW SOMETHING.
WHAT DO YOU THINK, LEADER?

...YES.
THEY PROBABLY WOULD.
...

BUT MAN, HOW FAR DOES THIS LABYRINTH GO?
FUUKA, CAN YOU TELL?
WELL... LET'S SEE...


THE LABYRINTH IS TOO BIG. I CAN'T GET A FULL SCHEMATIC.
I CHECKED UP AHEAD, AND IT LOOKS LIKE THERE ARE MORE SHADOWS. NOT LIKE THE ONES YOU JUST FOUGHT— THEY'RE PROBABLY STRONGER.

I SEE...
LET'S GO BACK AND COME UP WITH A PLAN OF ATTACK

ZEN...
LET'S GO HOME TOGETHER, NO MATTER WHAT.
...YES.
LET'S GO HOME.

SKITTER
SKITTER
SKITTER
AT LAST...
AT LAST, THE TIME HAS COME...
WILL THEY EVER FIND THEIR WAY BACK TO GEKKOUKAN HIGH SCHOOL?!
IT BEGINS.
To be continued!